

Atty. Dkt. No. 99PS014/KE (047141-0327)

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-11 were previously cancelled. Claims 12 and 22 are currently amended. No new matter is added.

Claim 23 is added. No new matter is added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 12-23 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 12-22 were rejected under § 103 (a) as being obvious by U.S. Patent No. 5,666,151 by Kondo et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,288 by Reed et al. Applicant respectfully submits that neither reference, alone or in combination, renders obvious that which is claimed in the present application. Applicant continues to respectfully submit that independent Claims 12 and 22 are patentable over the rejection based on Kondo and Reed. Specifically, Applicant continues to submit that “wherein the RF channels are mapped to the programming signals independent of an equally-distributive relationship between the RF channels and the programming signals” is not disclosed, taught, or suggested in the combination of Kondo and Reed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 12 and 22 are patentable over the Examiner’s rejection of Kondo and Reed prior to the current amendments. However, to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended independent Claims 12 and 22 and respectfully request allowance of the Present Application in light of the current amendments and the present remarks.

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Independent Claims 12 and 22

Claim 12 is not rendered obvious under § 103 (a) by U.S. Patent No. 5,666,151 by Kondo et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,288 by Reed et al. Neither Kondo nor Reed teaches (nor the combination thereof) or suggests Claim 12 because neither reference teaches or suggests a method comprising: "displaying on the passenger control unit the program channel corresponding to the programming signal, such that the passenger control unit enables a user to toggle between program channels, wherein the RF channels are configured to be mapped independent of an equally-distributive relationship with the programming signals, wherein the passenger control unit is further configured to enable a user to toggle between programming signals and to directly select a particular programming signal." Similarly, neither Kondo nor Reed teaches (nor the combination thereof) or suggests Claim 22 because neither reference teaches or suggests a method comprising: "displaying the program channel on a passenger control unit, such that the passenger control unit enables a user to toggle between program channels, wherein the program channels are configured to be mapped to correspond to an assigned RF channel having multiple video streams independent of the proportionate distributive relationship, wherein the passenger control unit is further configured to enable a user to toggle between programming signals and to directly select a particular programming signal."

Systems described in the Present Application include the advantageous feature of allowing a multiple programming signals to be associated with an RF channel and multiple RF channels to be associated with a program channel. Claims 12 and 22 describe a system wherein the "passenger control unit enables a user to toggle between program channels" and "wherein the passenger control unit is further configured to enable a user to toggle between programming signals and to directly select a particular programming signal." Therefore, a user may select programming material in at least three ways: (1) toggling between program channels; (2) toggling between programming signals; and (3) directly selecting a particular programming signal.

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Kondo, in Col. 5, lines 43-65, describes activity relating to the user selection of video or audio channels. This selection, as well as the remainder of Kondo, is devoid of a "passenger control unit [that] enables a user to toggle between program channels" and "wherein the passenger control unit is further configured to enable a user to toggle between programming signals and to directly select a particular programming signal" claimed in Claims 12 and 22. Reed is similarly lacking any disclosure, teaching, or suggestion of a "passenger control unit [that] enables a user to toggle between program channels" and "wherein the passenger control unit is further configured to enable a user to toggle between programming signals and to directly select a particular programming signal."

Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of independent Claim 12, independent Claim 22, since at least one element is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the Kondo or Reed references, in combination or individually. Claim 23 is patentable over the combination of Kondo and Reed for reasons similar to those stated above with respect to independent Claims 12 and 22.

Dependent Claims 13-21

Dependent claims 13-21 incorporate by reference the limitations of independent claim 12, and are therefore allowable for the same reasons that claim 12 is allowable. The Applicant submits that if the method of claim 12 is novel and non-obvious, the claims that depend therefrom are also novel and non-obvious. Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the newly presented dependent claims recite additional novel and non-obvious features which are not taught or suggested by the references.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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